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### Universal Penny Postage.

The announcement that the postage rate between England and the United States has been reduced to two cents a letter recalls the efforts of Elihu Burritt, one of the world's greatest peace workers, for postage reform. Half a century ago, when it cost twenty-four cents to send a letter from England to America, a rate which almost prohibited correspondence between the two countries, Burritt, in the face of ridicule and unbelief, proposed that the rate be reduced to one penny, that is, in American money, two cents. He began his agitation for reduction in Great Britain, making public addresses in the leading cities, from Penzance to Aberdeen, and from Cork to Belfast. Later on he brought the matter home to the legislatures of Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and organized a committee in Boston to take charge of the movement. He spent three months in Washington working with Congress and the national government, and, after preparing a report for the postal committee, which was endorsed by Charles Sumner and Senator Douglas, toured the Southern and Western States, spoke in Canada, returned to England and visited Holland and Prussia in the interest of his cause. As a result of his appeal to public opinion in Great Britain, the British government, beginning in the empire, reduced its postal charges to sixpence a letter to India, Australia and Canada, while it made fourpence the rate to France. In due course of time the rate between America and England, as between practically all countries, was made five cents, first for half an ounce and then for one ounce, and this rate remained in force until October of this year, when it was lowered to the amount named in Burritt's original proposition.

The success of Burritt's plan, though it has been long in coming, and is now only partially realized, for he held up universal penny postage as his ideal, is a reminder that persistent and thorough agitation for any measure that is calculated to benefit humanity is bound in the end to bear its full fruit. The reform in this case, besides being a blessing to the writers of letters by making it possible to send their correspondence more cheaply, will be a benefit to the governments, because experience shows that correspondence grows more than proportionately in volume as the rates of postage are cut down. Better still, the change brings England and America nearer together in quickened relations of business and friendship. Viewed from the standpoint of closer international fellowship, the work begun by Elihu Burritt and consummated by the governments of these two countries is a measure of peace and amity which is destined to increase in significance as it becomes adopted by the entire world, as it is sure to be in a very short time. The increased correspondence that will be the result will

bring about wider international acquaintance, and this wider mutual knowledge will remove prejudices, allay ill-feelings and develop respect and appreciation — the very bases of concord.

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### Editorial Notes.

#### Some Recent New Members.

Among the many new accessions to the membership of the American Peace Society received during the months of September and October are the following prominent persons:

President Woodrow Wilson, Ph. D., LL. D., Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

President William O. Thompson, D. D., LL. D., Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

President Herbert Welch, D. D., LL. D., Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio.

President W. H. S. Demarest, D. D., Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.

President Augustus B. Church, D. D., LL. D., Buchtel College, Akron, O.

President Charles S. Howe, Ph. D., Case School Applied Science, Cleveland, O.

President Henry A. Buttz, D. D., LL. D., Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J.

President Henry C. White, Ph. D., LL. D., Georgia State College.

Governor A. L. Harris of Ohio.

Ex-Governor E. C. Stokes of New Jersey

Judge Alfred Reed, LL. D., Supreme Court, New Jersey.

Judge Francis J. Swayze, LL. D., Supreme Court, New Jersey.

Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, Hemenway Gymnasium, Cambridge, Mass.

Judge Frank T. Lloyd, Camden, N. J.

Judge C. V. D. Joline, Camden, N. J.

Judge Elmer E. Green, Trenton, N. J.

Judge Hiram L. Sibley, LL. D., Columbus, O.

Hon. C. B. Galbreath, State Librarian of Ohio.

Hon. Henry A. Buchanan, State Librarian of New Jersey.

Hon. E. A. Jones, Ph. D., State Commissioner of Education, Ohio.

Dr. C. O. Probst, Secretary State Board of Health, Ohio.

Hon. J. Brognard Betts, Assistant State Superintendent Public Instruction of New Jersey.

Mr. Warren S. Stone, Grand Chief of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Cleveland, O.

Mr. Dan L. Cease, President Brotherhood of R. R. Trainmen.

Mr. A. E. King, Grand Secretary Brotherhood of R. R. Trainmen.

Mr. Frederick Frelinghuysen, President Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, Newark, N. J.

Mr. L. E. Holden, Proprietor and Editor *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

Right Rev. Edwin S. Lines, D. D., Bishop of Newark.

Right Rev. David H. Greer, D. D., S. T. D., LL. D., Bishop of New York.

Rev. Washington Gladden, D.D., LL.D., Ex-Moderator Congregational National Council, Columbus, O.

Rev. Amory H. Bradford, D. D., Ex-Moderator Congregational National Council, Montclair, N. J.

Rev. Daniel F. Bradley, D. D., Cleveland, O.

Rev. Wm. Hayes Ward, D. D., LL. D., Editor of *The Independent*, New York.

Within the past two months also the presidents of the Boards of Trade of Columbus, O., and Newark, N. J., several professors of law, history and economics, several bank presidents, physicians, authors, artists and lawyers, and many prominent clergymen, business men and superintendents of schools have been added to the membership of the Society.

#### The Fisheries Congress.

The International Fisheries' Congress, which was held in Washington September 22-25, proved to be the means of bringing together between three hundred and four hundred representatives of twenty-four nations, including Great Britain, Canada, the principal countries of Europe and South America, as well as China and Japan. The chief business of the Congress was the discussion of the best methods of fish culture both by propagation and protection. After the session was over, thirty of the foreign delegates visited Woods' Hole to see the methods employed by the United States Fish Commission there, and then came to Boston and Gloucester to inspect the markets of these two great centres of the fishing industry. While the delegates were here they were given a reception by Governor Guild at the State House, a banquet by the Boston dealers at Young's Hotel, and an excursion to Cambridge by the committee of arrangements. In Cambridge they visited the zoological museum of Harvard, which is famous for its collection of sea-life. Although the Congress had no immediate connection with the Canadian or Newfoundland fisheries dispute, or with the diplomatic policy of the government in any particular quarter, yet, as an international episode, it served the high moral purpose of creating kind fellow-feeling among men who are engaged in a great world industry. Professor Prince, the Dominion Commissioner, brought out this fact with a fine spirit, when in his Boston speech he said that the Congress had put the seal of amity upon the world; for, while in the past the fisheries had been the cause of international contentions, they would in the future be a bond of union between all the nations of the earth. So through the interdependence of the peoples, each becoming interested in what concerns all, even to

the simplest wants of everyday life, is the organization of an international commonwealth constantly going on; and, instead of quarreling over the means of subsistence, men are unconsciously making them the object of peace. As Francis G. Peabody once said of the responsibility of educators in creating right ideals in international life: "Whether it will or not, the very processes of education, through their own development and expansion, make irresistible the way we want the world to go."

#### Australian Defection.

The Minister of Defense, Mr. Ewing, has introduced into the Australian parliament his Bill for Compulsory Military Service. All British subjects, unless specially exempted, between twelve and eighteen years of age, must serve as Cadets, and from eighteen to twenty-six as National Guards. The Cadets must put in one hour's training a week and four days a year; the National Guards eighteen days annually in the first three years and seven days in the next five. Naval, artillery and engineer recruits are to undergo more training. Non-efficients are to be penalized, and employers discriminating against National Guards in their service are to be fined. Mr. Ewing anticipates that the strength of the National Guard would be 200,000 men, adequate to guard the island and leave the British fleet free for "bigger operations." The cost to the government, he calculated, would be only £100,000 more than it was already spending on armaments. The scheme is favored by the Labor Party and the "White Australia" parties generally, and is likely to be adopted. This system, coupled with that for the immediate creation of the nucleus of a navy at a cost of more than six millions of dollars, will, if carried into effect for a few years, practically militarize the whole Australian people. One would have to travel far and search everywhere to find a single shadow of reason to justify this deplorable move of the Australian Federation. *Two hundred thousand men* to guard the country from attack! From where? By whom? The meaning of the whole thing is that Australia, under the lead of a few spellbinding men of ancient notions of national security and greatness, is falling under the becrating spell of fear and dependence upon brute force which has been "stealing away the brains" of the older nations, and has already nearly filled the world with the instruments of death and terror.

#### A Striking Incident.

One of the British delegates to the Interparliamentary Conference, which met in September in Berlin, has written to the *Nation* (London) an account of a most interesting and remarkable scene which took place at the garden party

given the delegates by the German Imperial Chancellor. We quote the paragraph:

"There was another feature of the meeting at Berlin which is of more immediate interest to our own country. There has been of late a recrudescence of anti-German feeling in a certain section of the English press, with its counterpart, no doubt, in a section of the German press. Three days before the opening of the Congress Prince von Bülow had thought it necessary to reply in the columns of a London paper to an irritating article in a well-known English review. His reply was eminently conciliatory in tone, and to the British delegates in Berlin the Congress seemed an admirable opportunity for assuring the Prince that the pacific sentiments which he claimed for the German people were shared to the full by the British people. Hence came about a picturesque and striking incident. At a large garden party given by the German Chancellor on Saturday afternoon to over one thousand guests, the British delegates suddenly grouped themselves round him, and through the mouth of Lord Weardale assured him how they reciprocated the friendly sentiments which he had expressed. Lord Weardale, who spoke with infinite tact and force, was frequently cheered by his colleagues; and the Chancellor, evidently much impressed, replied in very sympathetic terms, assuring his hearers of the strong desire felt by the German Emperor, government and people for the friendliest relations with Great Britain. He then shook hands most cordially with all the British delegates. This interesting and remarkable scene, followed as it was the next day by the great Anglo-German labor demonstration in favor of peace and reduction of armaments, created a marked impression in Germany, and may do much to mitigate the bitterness which certain mischief makers on both sides seem bent on provoking."

The German  
Trade Unionists.

Fuller information in regard to the great peace demonstration of the German Labor Unionists in Berlin, on September 20, in connection with the Interparliamentary Conference, makes it clear that it was one of the most imposing affairs of its kind ever witnessed. The British Labor members present, some of whom, like Mr. Crooks and Mr. Ward, had had wide experience of working-class crowds, expressed their amazement at the spectacle and declared it to be the finest sight they had ever seen. The great crowds were extremely orderly. The meeting was fixed for noon, but by nine o'clock the biggest hall in Berlin was packed by a crowd estimated by the police at five thousand, while outside in the gardens a crowd of fifteen to eighteen thousand waited in vain for admission. "The discipline of the vast assembly was little short of marvelous." Mr. Legien, chairman of the General Committee of the German Trade Unions, in opening the meeting and extending a special welcome to the English labor leaders, declared that "the decision as to peace or war now lay in the hands of the working classes, and if the working classes were once united the power of the

chauvinists would be broken forever." The chief feature of the meeting was the reading of an address from the British workmen, representing over two millions of British, to the German workmen denouncing the incitements to mutual hatred appearing in the press of both countries, and urging that, as the Anglo-French *entente* which had brought together two countries had primarily been brought about by the initiative of formerly bitterly hostile British workers, so they were anxious to have the coöperation of the German workers to bring about a similar *entente* between Great Britain and Germany, *with a reduction in costly armaments*. The demonstration reached its climax when from the stage of the open-air theatre the chairman put a resolution pledging the assembly of the German workingmen to employ, hand in hand with the British working classes, all appropriate means to destroy the jingo spirit and to safeguard peace. The enthusiasm was said to be "literally terrific," and when the chairman called for three cheers for the English visitors, "the effect was overwhelming," such a deep-throated "Hoch!" bursting forth as had probably never before been heard from assembled German throats.

War Scare  
Mongers.

In his presidential address at the opening of the International Trades Union Congress in London on the 8th of September, Mr. Shackleton, M. P., said among other things:

"I cannot conclude without some reference to the scare-mongers who for several weeks past have been trying to convince the people of this country that Germany was on the point of sending an army of two hundred thousand men to invade our shores. The same class of men in Germany have been busy with similar methods, declaring that the only thing an average Britisher is thinking about at the present time is when and how can we annex Germany. Certain newspapers announce that in their next issue an article will appear from a well-known and especially well-informed writer (who has been on the spot), showing how the German army are preparing for a sudden and unseen attack on the English coast. The number of columns which have been printed of this stuff ought to have inflamed the patriotic feeling of the British people sufficient to enlist three times the number desired by Mr. Haldane for his new territorial army, — an army, by the way, which is only required for home defense, — but I fear he has not yet got the required number. On this occasion the recognized jingo press had the assistance of certain well-known and trusted, but, I think, misguided friends of the Socialist movement. No, friends, the truth is the cause of international peace and the settlement of international difference by the common sense method of arbitration, rather than by the cruel method of war, is gaining ground among our people. Through the movements represented by International Coöperative Societies, the International Trade Union Congresses and the International Socialist Congresses, a firm and immovable barrier is being built against war being considered the

only settlement of our difficulties. The working men and women in all countries have much in common; the same difficulties of unemployment beset them, as they beset us. Riches vs. Poverty, with all its consequent social problems, is ever with them as it is here. They, like us, are beginning to see that war means delay and defeat of all that tends to raise them in comfort and influence in the State to which they belong. It is fortunate, I think, that the Interparliamentary Union is holding its meeting this year in Berlin. Some of us were privileged to attend the one held in London in 1906, and from our experience of that great Conference great good for the cause of international peace will result. This Congress has always stood for international peace, and, in the words of the late John Bright, we call 'for the settlement of our international differences by a process which shall bring greater happiness and contentment to peoples, and shall promote and advance all that is good in the world, infinitely beyond anything that can ever be hoped for from the most glorious and bloody conflicts of armed men.'" [Cheers.]

**Germany's  
Financial  
Peril.**

Since the founding of the German Empire thirty-seven years ago, at the close of the Franco-Prussian war, the national debt has increased from *nothing* to \$1,060,000,000.

At the present rate of receipts and expenditures the increase in the debt will be, as estimated by the Minister of Finance, for the next five years, about \$110,000,000 annually. The interest charge on the national debt is \$40,000,000 per year. In addition to this the debts of many of the states constituting the empire are very heavy, that of Prussia alone being \$1,900,000,000, or nearly double that of the imperial government. This is an amazing situation, and it is not difficult to forecast the "débâcle" that will take place in thirty-seven years more, or less time, in the finances of Germany, if the present militaristic system with its ever-growing burdens is continued; for the expense of maintaining it, in these days of ten-million-dollar battleships, will grow in a geometric rather than in an arithmetic ratio. And the rest of the great powers are rushing madly on in the same road to ruin and dishonor!

**International,  
a Great Word.**

At the International Moral Education Congress, held in the Imperial Institute, London, at the end of September, and participated in by eminent men from different countries, including many representatives of foreign governments, the Bishop of Hereford, speaking at the dinner in the Criterion Restaurant, said that the most interesting word in connection with the Congress was the word "international." Of all the benefits which they hoped would ensue from it he could not but believe that the indirect benefits would prove the greatest, and those indirect benefits were those which flowed from the gathering

together from the various nations of East and West of such representatives as were there present. He himself had long been an earnest advocate of more intercourse between our own and neighboring and distant nations as a means of establishing a more real friendship between them and a better hope of enduring peace among the nations. He could not believe that there was any better foundation for the establishment of an enduring peace among the nations than that the educators of the young should meet together, and then go out again with the common object of raising and uplifting the moral education of the young in their various countries. [Cheers.] He had the hope that, as they grew to greater mutual knowledge, through such gatherings as that, they would grow to a more united people of all civilized countries, and that war would become impossible between them. [Cheers.] If they should ever come to effect that happy conclusion, they would have made a great step forward in the moral education of the peoples of the earth. The chairman of the occasion, Prof. Emile Boutroux of France, also declared that he attached great value to the international character of the gathering.

**The Nations  
Learning of  
One Another.**

The International Tuberculosis Congress, which met at Washington September 28-October 3, was no less remarkable for showing the growing community of interests among the nations than for its warm enthusiasm for its unique and important cause. Experts like Dr. Koch and Dr. Calmette, Dr. Pannwitz of the German Red Cross, and Surgeon General von Unterberger of St. Petersburg joined with public-spirited Americans like Professor Irving Fisher of Yale, Professor Wilcox of Cornell, Talcott Williams and Justice Brewer in discussing the various questions that are connected with the treatment of tuberculosis and the relation of that disease to public sanitation, labor conditions, and the economics of the home. Exhibits from Sweden and Germany, which deserve special mention, were placed beside equally creditable exhibits from Colorado, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. Playgrounds for children, methods of sleeping out of doors, preventive devices in factories, and apparatus used in the care of the sick, were shown to the mutual benefit of the American and foreign delegates. Like the congress on the fisheries, this conference was a new illustration of the growing interdependence of the nations in things that concern the daily life of all peoples. The fact that every nation has some scientific truths or processes of which others are glad to learn, and which they for their own safety must master, — a fact that was impressively brought out when a Chinese delegate expressed the hope that the congress might some day meet in China, — is prophetic of a time,

not so very far off, when there will be in the family of nations no barbarian, no Philistine, no inferior of any sort, but when all races, thinking the same kind thoughts of one another and cultivating the same high ideals of civilization, will devote themselves in peace and harmony to the universal good. In the promotion of this union of all interests let the United States, with her open mind and hospitable welcome, continue to take a leading part.

We sincerely regret to have to record the death of Josiah W. Leeds, of West Chester, Pa., at the comparatively early age of sixty-seven. As an individual peace worker along his own line he had no superior, if any equal, anywhere in the nation. He coöperated, certainly, with the peace organizations, contributed of his means to their support, and wrote articles for their journals. He had been for many years a member of the American Peace Society, and through his articles his name was well known to the older readers of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*. He was the author also of a considerable number of peace pamphlets. But his most influential services to the cause of peace were his valuable personal contributions to various newspapers in Philadelphia and elsewhere as occasion offered. He never knowingly let an opportunity pass to correct, through the papers, some error, counteract some false theory, or enlighten the public on the practicability of the principles of arbitration and peace. He was one of the first to interest himself in the more rational teaching of history in the schools, and in 1877 he published the first edition of his *History of the United States*, written from the peace point of view. A smaller *History of the United States*, an abridgment of the larger work, was afterwards published and ran through several editions. He kept himself well informed of the progress of the peace movement, and rejoiced to see the great gains which it has recently made. In other lines of benevolent, philanthropic work he was also most active. It was due to him chiefly that the public display of indecent posters and pictures and the circulation of impure literature from the news-stands were suppressed in Philadelphia.

### News from the Field.

Robert C. Root, Pacific Coast representative of the American Peace Society, has written for the September and October numbers of the *West Coast Magazine* (Los Angeles) two most valuable articles on "What is being done for Peace," which cover in a concise and most intelligent way nearly the whole field of the peace movement. Mr. Root has recently returned from Berkeley and San Francisco to Los Angeles, having secured more than fifty charter members of a Northern California Peace Society, to be organized immediately as a Branch of the American Peace Society, as the Southern California

Peace Society has been organized. Mr. Root is finding many openings for addresses before colleges, normal schools, high schools, societies and clubs of different kinds, and much interest in the cause is awakened wherever he speaks, especially among educators of the State. At the State Convention of school superintendents, held at Lake Tahoe in September, Mr. Root was given by the managers every facility for meeting and mingling with the educators present, and calling their attention to the movement for world peace.

Rev. Charles E. Beals, Field Secretary of the American Peace Society, spent the months of September and October largely in New Jersey and Ohio. He finds nearly everywhere a deepening interest in the cause of peace among educators, business men, labor leaders, lawyers, clergymen, indeed among all classes. It is expected that the outcome of his labors in New Jersey will be the early organization of a New Jersey Branch of the American Peace Society with at least one hundred charter members, and probably also the holding of a State Peace Congress in the early winter. We shall have more to say of the results of his labors in Ohio, where there is a "great opening" for the advancement of the cause. He goes this month to Chicago.

Rev. Bradley Gilman, one of the American Peace Society's Lecture Bureau Speakers, reports that the meeting in the interests of the arbitration and peace movement, addressed by him at the end of the Unitarian Summer Conference at the Isles of Shoals, N. H., was large and enthusiastic.

The Committee of Twenty-five appointed by the Pennsylvania Arbitration and Peace Congress last May, to promote the cause of peace in general and in particular the holding of similar congresses in other parts of the country, is now organized for active work. Fourteen additional men of prominence have been added to the Committee. Stanley R. Yarnell has been made chairman. A sub-committee on Educational Work has been created, with Dr. Jesse H. Holmes of Swathmore College as chairman; a Committee on Correspondence, with Thomas Raeburn White of the Philadelphia Bar as chairman; and a Committee on Finance under the chairmanship of Asa S. Wing, president of the Provident Life and Trust Company. The Committee on Correspondence has just issued a paper on the "Immediate Need of State Peace Conferences," which is being sent to prominent persons in the different States.

Most excellent peace work was done by Lucia Ames Mead, a member of the Board of Directors of the American Peace Society, at Buffalo at the time of the National Woman's Suffrage Convention last month. Mrs. William I. Buchanan had invited all the members of the Twentieth Century Club of Buffalo to hear Mrs. Mead at the Club rooms on Wednesday afternoon, the 21st ult. "A fine and appreciative audience" gathered. The *Buffalo Commercial*, which devoted a column to the report of the address, called it "highly interesting." Mrs. Buchanan writes that the hearers "were much impressed and delighted, and expressed themselves as being not only willing but eager to help in the cause." Several new additions to the membership of the American Peace